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DAREDEVIL
HUMANITY'S FATHOM
PART TWO OF FIVE
DIRECT EDITION
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FATHOMS OF HUMANITY

part two of five

BEARING FALSE WITNESS

"As someday it may happen that a *victim* must be found, I've got a little list—I've got a little list. Of society offenders who might well be underground and who would never be missed—who would never be missed."—

Sir William Schwenck Gilbert

BENEATH THE UNCEASING HOSTILITY OF THE CITY STREETS EXISTS A WORLD SEPARATE FROM WHAT IS ABOVE.

IT IS A WORLD CONTAINING A SOCIETY, A COMMUNITY...

...A COMMUNITY UNLIKE ANY SEEN BY THOSE WHO LIVE ABOVE GROUND, YET ALARMINGLY SIMILAR NONE-THE LESS.

HYPER-ACUTE HEARING PICKS UP THE RASPY BREATHING AND UNEVEN HEARTBEAT OF THE SICKLY INFANT HE HOLDS IN HIS HANDS.

HE IS BEWILDERED AT THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO LIVE HERE, MANY BORN HERE, IN THESE TUNNELS AND SEWAGE DRAINS.

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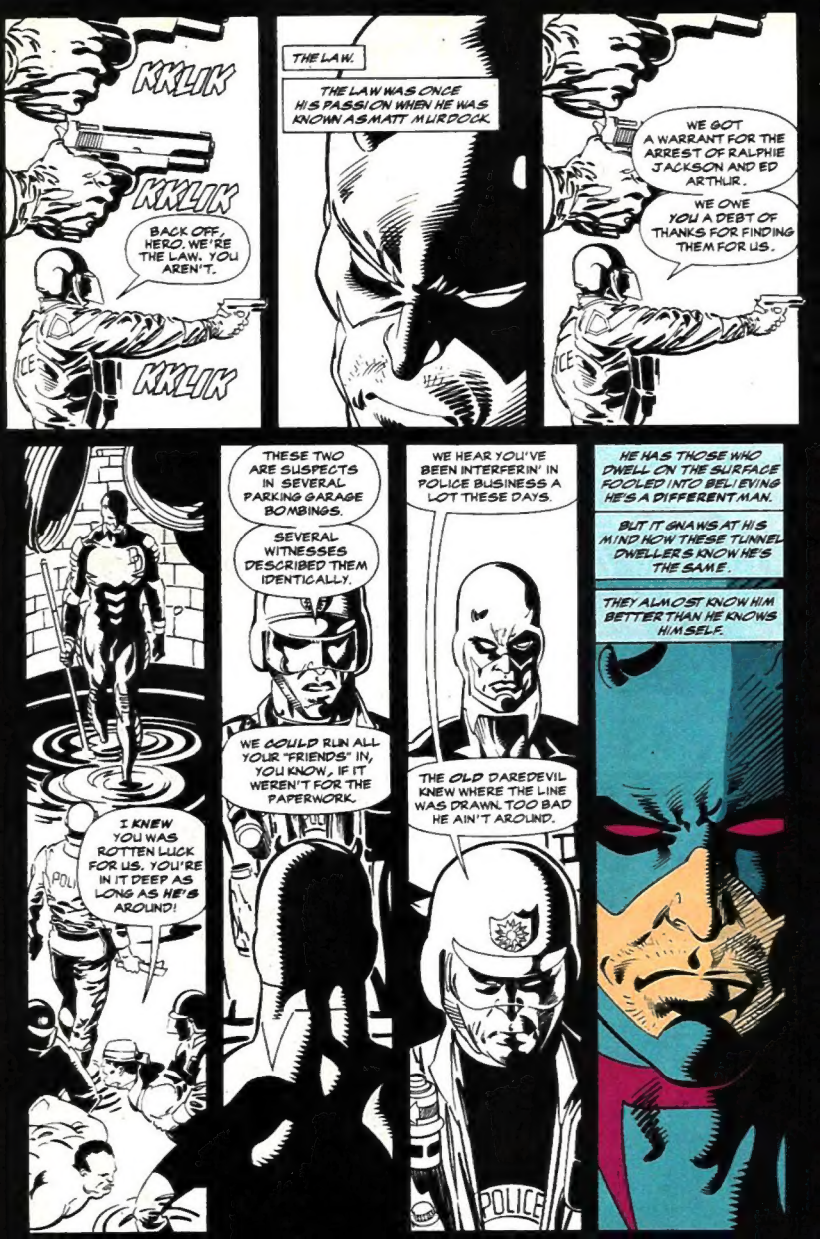
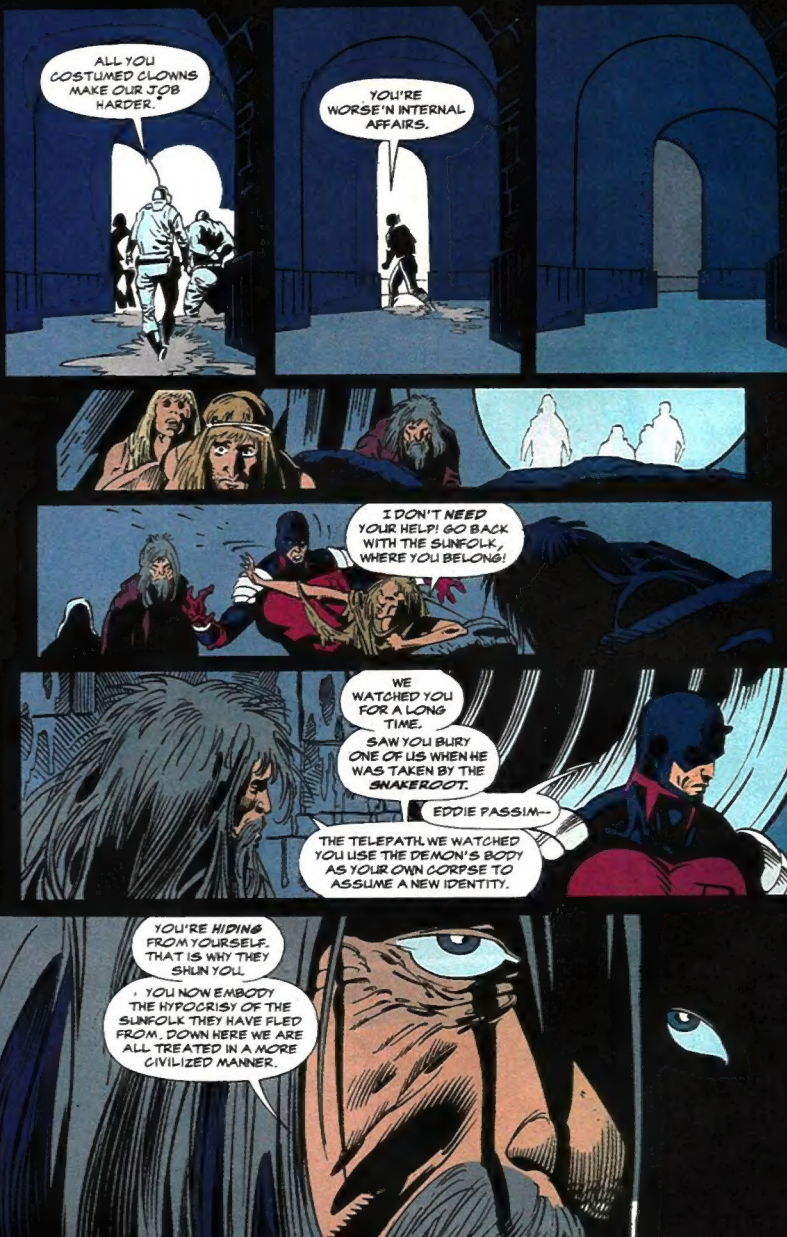
I HAD NO IDEA SO MANY OF YOU WERE DOWN HERE...
WE'D PREFER YOU DIDN'T KNOW NOW.
HERO DON'T BELONG IN THE DARK.
HE'S--HE'S BEEN SO SICK. THANK THE LORD RALPHIE AND ED WERE ABLE TO GET MONEY TO BUY MEDICINE AND FORMULA.
THE CLINICS THROW US OUT--I AIN'T GOT NO MILK.
GOD ANSWERED MY PRAYERS WHEN HE KEPT MY ADDICTION AWAY FROM HIM.
YOUR SON REALLY DOES NEED PROPER MEDICAL CARE. DOWN HERE YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY--
I KNOW SEVERAL GOOD AGENCIES THAT PLACE FOSTER CHILDREN UNTIL THE PARENTS CAN GET STRAIGHT.
I CAN--

NEVER! YOU ALL WANT TO TAKE HIM FROM ME!
HE'S ALL I GOT! I'D DIE WITHOUT HIM!
HE'S ALL THAT KEEPS ME FROM GOIN' BACK TO THE NEEDLES!
NONE OF THE RULES YOU KNOW APPLY DOWN HERE, DAREDEVIL.
LISTEN TO JOSHUA.
WE TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN. YOU'RE WASTING ENERGY BETTER SPENT SOMEWHERE ELSE.
THIS IS NO WAY FOR A CHILD TO LIVE-- HE WON'T EVER--
WE CHOSE THIS LIFE, HERO. ME AN' RALPHIE WERE BORN HERE JUST LIKE MARTHA'S KID.
HE CAN LEAVE WHEN HE'S OLDER IF HE WANTS.
THIS IS OUR BUSINESS, NOT YOURS. SO LAY OFF THE JUDGMENT AND GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM.

ED.
YAHH!
KRIK
YOU TRICKED HIM INTO FIGHTING THE KING FOR US, BECAUSE WE COULD NOT DEFEAT HIM OURSELVES.
THE KING WILL NOT BOTHER US FOR SOME TIME NOW THANKS TO DAREDEVIL.
SO CUT THE MAN SOME SLACK.
I CAN SPEAK FOR MYSELF.
WHERE'D YOU LEARN THE MARTIAL ARTS--?
LIKE YOURSELF, I AM NOT WHAT I SEEM.
TELEVISION?
...ON PBS TONIGHT...
INGENUITY. THE CITY'S BLOOD IS UNDERGROUND WITH US. WE TAP ONLY WHAT WE NEED--
THEY'RE BACK!
THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE DARK LEARN TO HEAR WHAT THEY CANNOT SEE, MUCH LIKE DAREDEVIL.
BUT HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT TO LISTEN FOR UNTIL HE IS TOLD.
HIS INTERNAL RADAR PIERCES THE BLACKNESS, REVEALING THE SOURCE OF THE SOUNDS.
INTRUDERS. ARMED INTRUDERS FROM THE SURFACE.

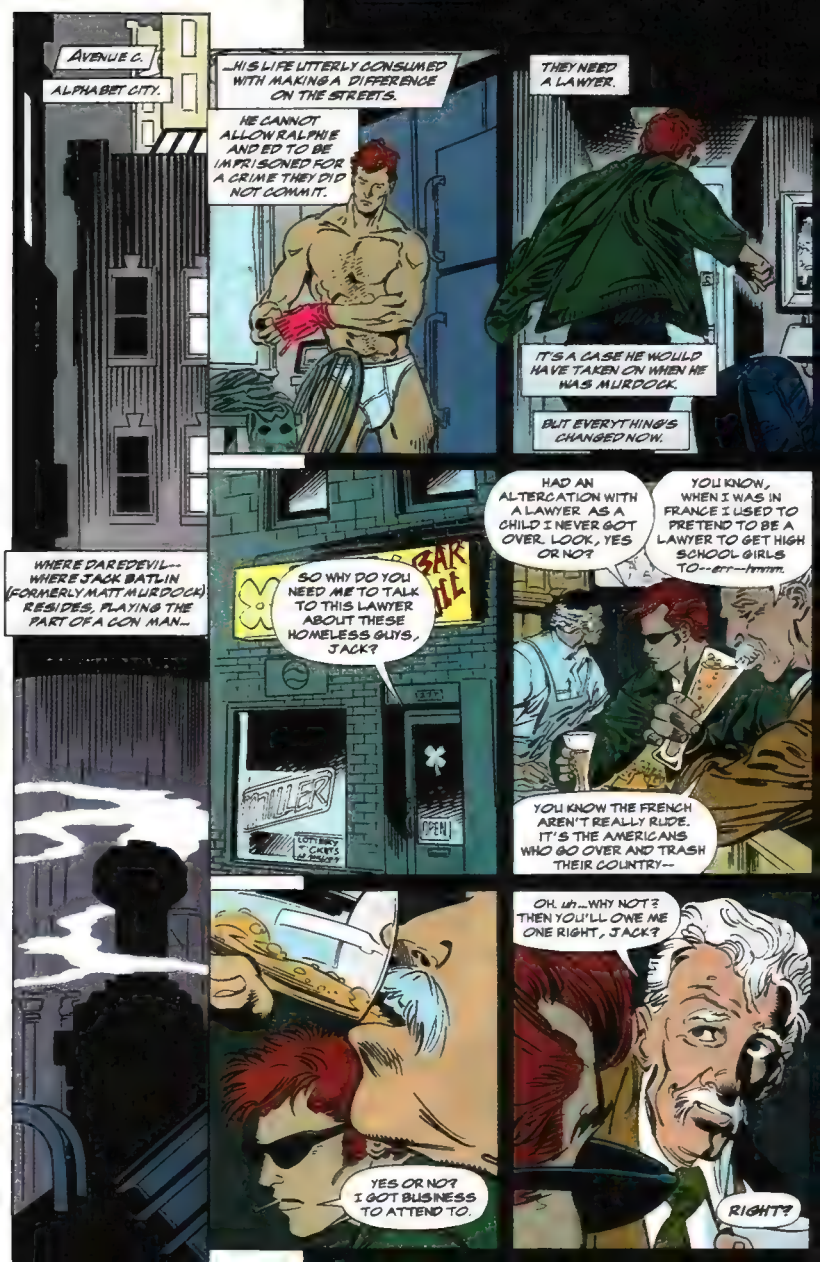
WE'RE SURROUNDED.
EVERYBODY FREEZE AND NO ONE WILL BE HARMED!
NO!
STAY DOWN, ALL OF YOU.
YOU DEAF OR JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND FREEZE?
SNAK
MOST ARE CONFUSED BY THE HARSH WHITE LIGHT PLAYING AGAINST THE ABYSS.
DAREDEVIL IS NOT AMONG THEM.
KRAK
MY BATON-- WHERE'D HE COME FROM?


KKLIK
KKLIK
BACK OFF, HERO. WE'RE THE LAW. YOU AREN'T.
KKLIK
THE LAW.
THE LAW WAS ONCE HIS PASSION WHEN HE WAS KNOWN AS MATT MURDOCK.
WE GOT A WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF RALPHIE JACKSON AND ED ARTHUR.
WE OWE YOU A DEBT OF THANKS FOR FINDING THEM FOR US.
I KNEW YOU WAS ROTTEN LUCK FOR US. YOU'RE IN IT DEEP AS LONG AS HE'S AROUND!
THESE TWO ARE SUSPECTS IN SEVERAL PARKING GARAGE BOMBINGS.
SEVERAL WITNESSES DESCRIBED THEM IDENTICALLY.
WE COULD RUN ALL YOUR "FRIENDS" IN, YOU KNOW, IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE PAPERWORK.
WE HEAR YOU'VE BEEN INTERFERIN' IN POLICE BUSINESS A LOT THESE DAYS.
THE OLD DAREDEVIL KNEW WHERE THE LINE WAS DRAWN. TOO BAD HE AIN'T AROUND.
POLICE
HE HAS THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE SURFACE FOOLED INTO BELIEVING HE'S A DIFFERENT MAN.
BUT IT GNAWS AT HIS MIND HOW THESE TUNNEL DWELLERS KNOW HE'S THE SAME.
THEY ALMOST KNOW HIM BETTER THAN HE KNOWS HIMSELF.

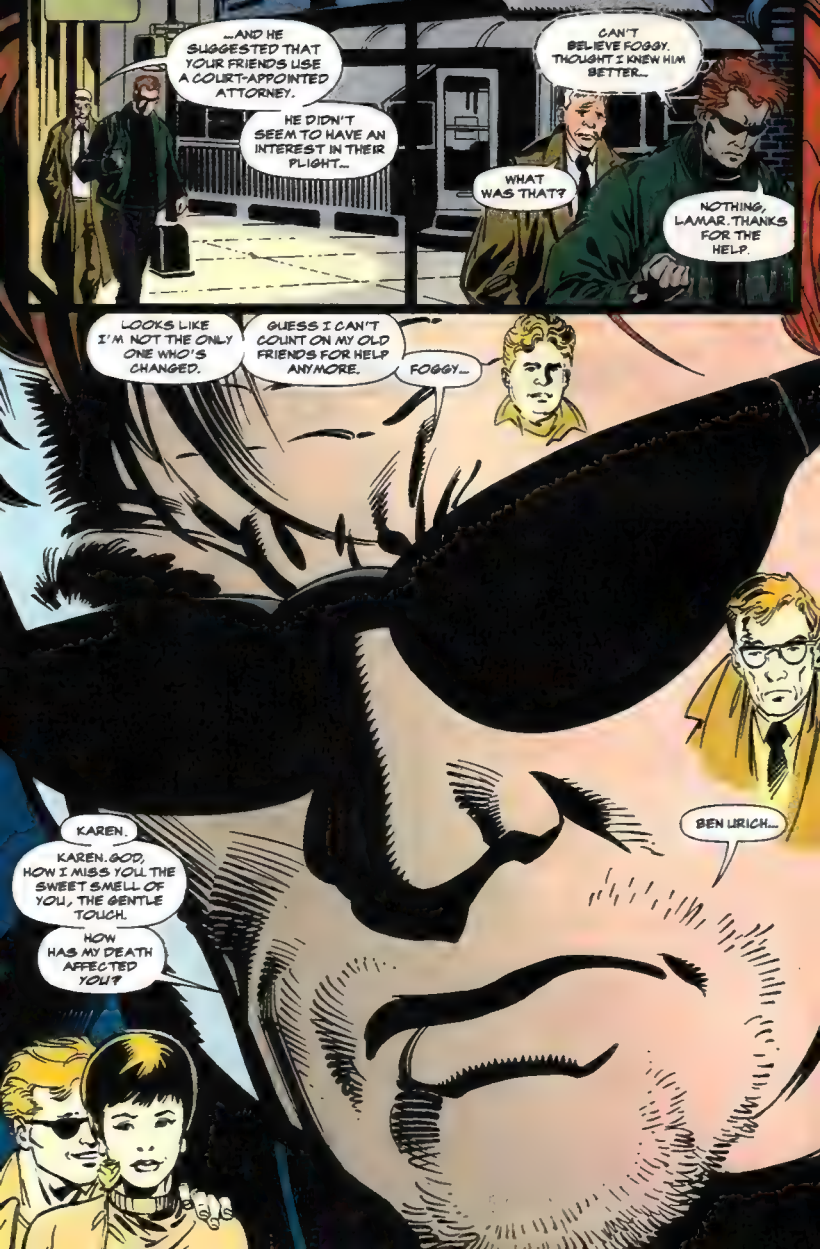

ALL YOU COSTUMED CLOWNS MAKE OUR JOB HARDER.
YOU'RE WORSE'N INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP! GO BACK WITH THE SLINFOLK, WHERE YOU BELONG!
WE WATCHED YOU FOR A LONG TIME.
SAW YOU BURY ONE OF US WHEN HE WAS TAKEN BY THE SNAKEROOT.
EDDIE PASSIM--
THE TELEPATH. WE WATCHED YOU USE THE DEMON'S BODY AS YOUR OWN CORPSE TO ASSUME A NEW IDENTITY.
YOU'RE HIDING FROM YOURSELF. THAT IS WHY THEY SHUN YOU.
YOU NOW EMBODY THE HYPOCRISY OF THE SLINFOLK THEY HAVE FLED FROM. DOWN HERE WE ARE ALL TREATED IN A MORE CIVILIZED MANNER.

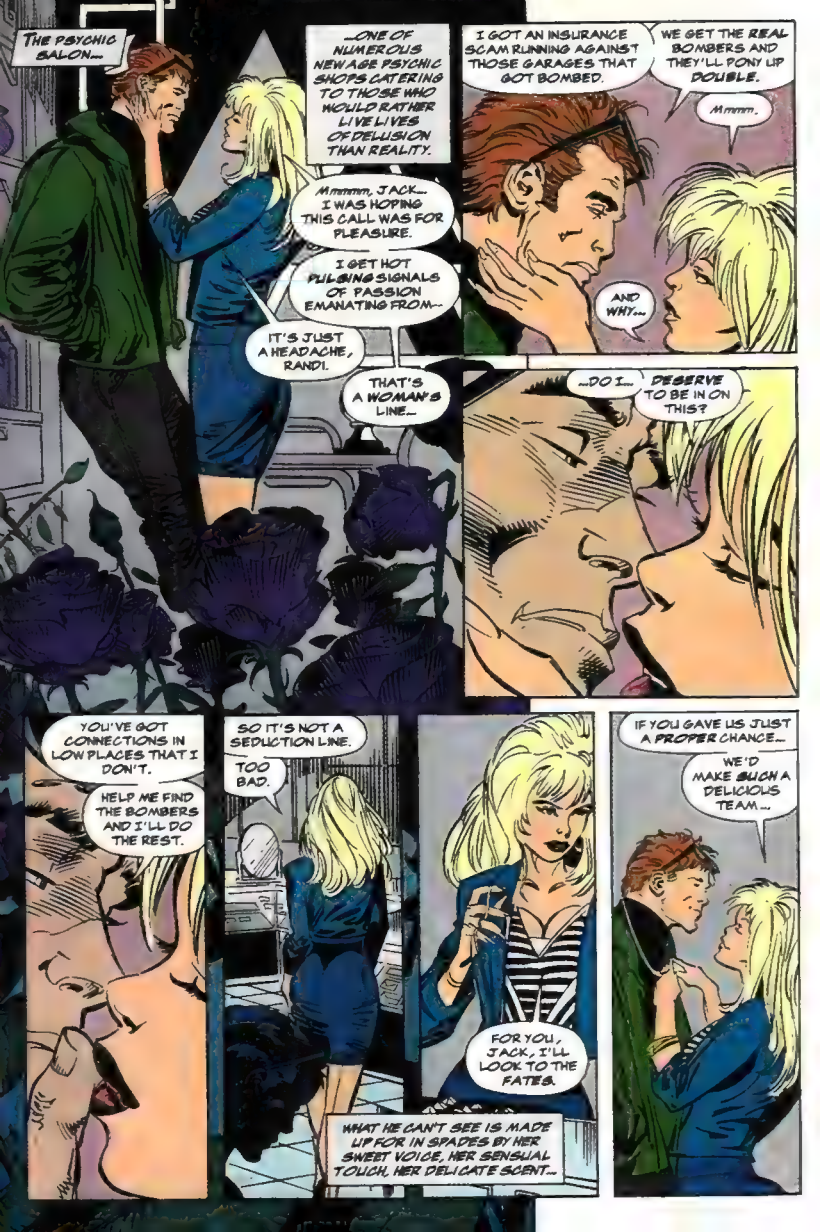
CIVILIZED?
DOWN HERE WE WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD LIFE. UP THERE PEOPLE WORK AGAINST EACH OTHER, STEPPING ON AND GRINDING EACH OTHER INTO DUST.
RALPHIE AND ED TRIED TO USE THE SUN-FOLK TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.
THEY GOT BURNED.
THEY BOMBED A PARKING GARAGE. NO MATTER WHY THEY DID IT, IT'S--
hmmph. THEY DIDN'T BOMB ANY GARAGE. THEY OPEN EVERY PACKAGE THEY SMUGGLE, SEE IF ANYTHING INSIDE IS WORTH STEALING A BIT THAT WON'T BE MISSED.
A BOMB WOULD SCARE THOSE TWO SILLY.
THEY CARRY DRUGS, PAYOFFS, NUMBERS, GOD KNOWS WHAT ALL.
THEY'RE JUST ERRAND BOYS WHO'RE SAFER THAN A MESSENGER SERVICE.
IT'S STILL WRONG.
NEVER SAID IT WASN'T.
BUT SO'S BEIN' FIRED FOR THE COLOR OF YOUR SKIN, BEIN' TOSSED IN JAIL FOR WALKING ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE STREET.
THOSE BOYS DON'T DO IT TO BENEFIT THEMSELVES. THEY DO IT TO HELP SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY. LIKE THE MEDICINE FOR MARTHA'S LITTLE BABY.
THEY KNEW THE RISK WHEN THEY WENT TO THE SUNFOLK AGAINST MY WISHES.
NOW THEY HAVE TO PAY FOR WHAT THEY DIDN'T DO, AND FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY, WE STAY OUT OF IT.

DEEPER DOWN IN THE CITY'S SEWAGE SYSTEM, THE SCARRED HEAP OF FETID FLESH KNOWN AS THE KING WANDERS AND PLOTS HIS NEXT MOVE.
HE WILL HAVE HIS REVENGE ON DAREDEVIL.
YOU STILL THE KING, YOU STILL THE ONE.
THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE GUTS TA EAT YA, KING, AN YA GOT AWAY!
WE'LL HELP YA, WE'LL FIND DAREDEVIL AND YOU KNOW WHAT?
WE'LL COOK HIM SLOW WHILE HE'S ALIVE AND CHEW THE BONES WHILE HE SCREAMS!
THAT'LL SHOW 'IM HUH, KING?
Skrrrittt
Skrrrittt
SNAP
SPLAP
SPLAP
WE HAVE TO FIND IT.
WE HAVE TO FIND THE ALTAR.


AVENUE C.
ALPHABET CITY.
...HIS LIFE UTTERLY CONSUMED WITH MAKING A DIFFERENCE ON THE STREETS.
HE CANNOT ALLOW RALPHIE AND ED TO BE IMPRISONED FOR A CRIME THEY DID NOT COMMIT.
THEY NEED A LAWYER.
IT'S A CASE HE WOULD HAVE TAKEN ON WHEN HE WAS MURDOCK.
BUT EVERYTHING'S CHANGED NOW.
WHERE DAREDEVIL--WHERE JACK BATLIN (FORMERLY MATT MURDOCK) RESIDES, PLAYING THE PART OF A CON MAN--
SO WHY DO YOU NEED ME TO TALK TO THIS LAWYER ABOUT THESE HOMELESS GUYS, JACK?
HAD AN ALTERCATION WITH A LAWYER AS A CHILD I NEVER GOT OVER. LOOK, YES OR NO?
YOU KNOW, WHEN I WAS IN FRANCE I USED TO PRETEND TO BE A LAWYER TO GET HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TO--err--hmmm.
YOU KNOW THE FRENCH AREN'T REALLY RUDE. IT'S THE AMERICANS WHO GO OVER AND TRASH THEIR COUNTRY--
YES OR NO? I GOT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO.
OH. uh...WHY NOT? THEN YOU'LL OWE ME ONE RIGHT, JACK?
RIGHT?

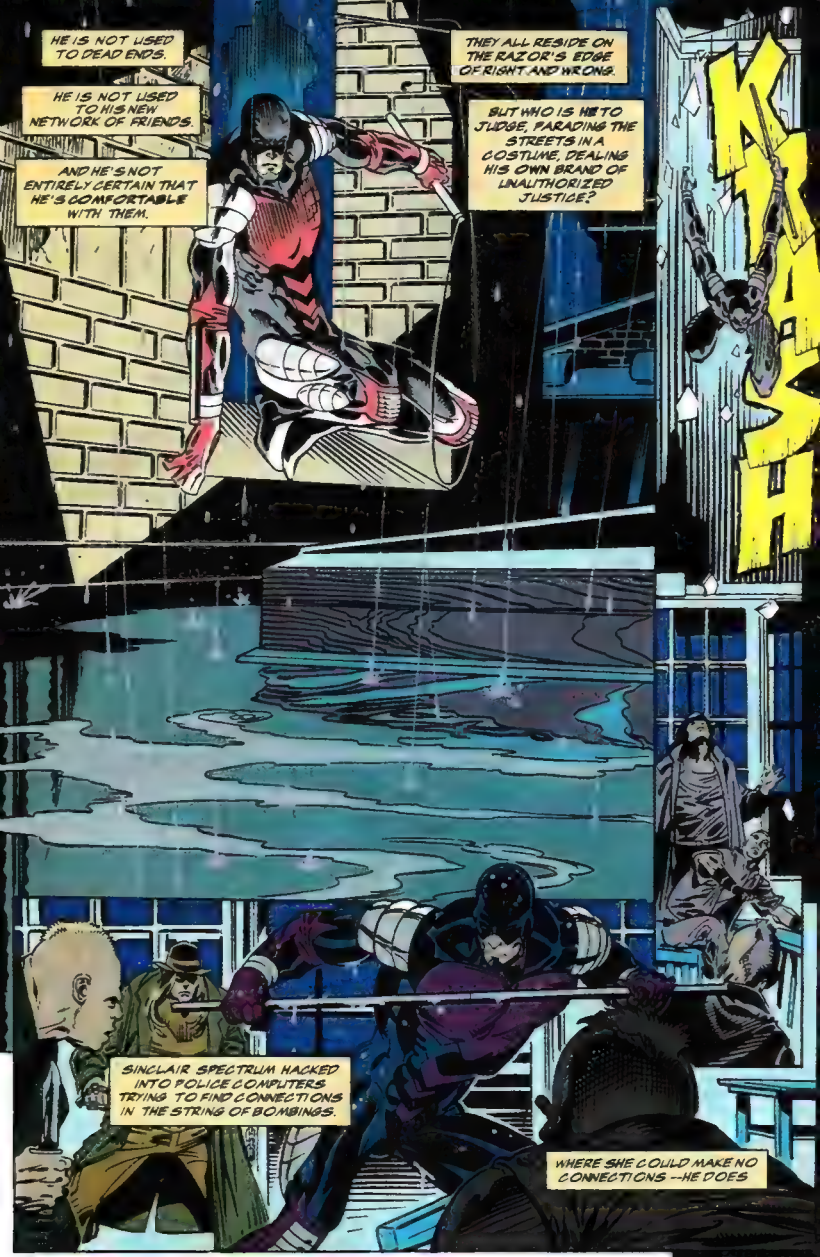
ONCE THE OFFICE BELONGED TO NELSON AND MURDOCK.
NOW ALL THAT REMAINS IS NELSON. FOGGY NELSON.
NO, THAT ISN'T SOON ENOUGH, AND THE BRIEF YOU PREPARED DOESN'T HAVE THE DOCUMENTATION--
--ONE SECOND MR. SANDERS.
--GET BACK TO THE LIBRARY AND FIND IT THEN. YES, SEND THE P.I. BACK TO BOSTON. RIGHT. 'BYE.
YOU EVER HAVE--?
BRINNG
FOGGY NEL-- YES, SIR, I DID TAKE CARE OF--WHAT? NO. DON'T DO THAT, THEY CAN SUE FOR LIBEL. YES, I--
BRINNG BRINNG
HOLD FOR ONE SECOND. THE OTHER LINE'S GOING AND I'M ALONE HERE--
BRINNG BRINNG
THREE OF THEM!
YOU CAN ALL JUST WAIT ON HOLD FOR A MINUTE.
hmmmm. MR. SANDERS, AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M SWAMPED. I HAVEN'T A SPARE SECOND TO HELP YOUR FRIENDS, AND TO BE BLUNT, MOST OF MY CURRENT CLIENTS PAY ME FAR TOO MUCH TO FURTHER BURDEN MYSELF AND WEAKEN THEIR--


...AND HE SUGGESTED THAT YOUR FRIENDS USE A COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY.
HE DIDN'T SEEM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN THEIR PLIGHT...
CAN'T BELIEVE FOGGY. THOUGHT I KNEW HIM BETTER...
WHAT WAS THAT?
NOTHING, LAMAR. THANKS FOR THE HELP.
LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'S CHANGED.
GUESS I CAN'T COUNT ON MY OLD FRIENDS FOR HELP ANYMORE.
FOGGY...
BEN URICH...
KAREN.
KAREN. GOD, HOW I MISS YOU. THE SWEET SMELL OF YOU, THE GENTLE TOUCH.
HOW HAS MY DEATH AFFECTED YOU?


THE PSYCHIC SALON...
...ONE OF NUMEROUS NEW AGE PSYCHIC SHOPS CATERING TO THOSE WHO WOULD RATHER LIVE LIVES OF DELUSION THAN REALITY.
I GOT AN INSURANCE SCAM RUNNING AGAINST THOSE GARAGES THAT GOT BOMBED.
WE GET THE REAL BOMBERS AND THEY'LL PONY UP DOUBLE.
Mmmm.
Mmmmm, JACK... I WAS HOPING THIS CALL WAS FOR PLEASURE.
I GET HOT PULSING SIGNALS OF PASSION EMANATING FROM...
AND WHY...
IT'S JUST A HEADACHE, RANDI.
THAT'S A WOMAN'S LINE...
...DO I... DESERVE TO BE IN ON THIS?
YOU'VE GOT CONNECTIONS IN LOW PLACES THAT I DON'T.
HELP ME FIND THE BOMBERS AND I'LL DO THE REST.
SO IT'S NOT A SEDUCTION LINE.
TOO BAD.
FOR YOU, JACK, I'LL LOOK TO THE FATES.
WHAT HE CAN'T SEE IS MADE UP FOR IN SPADES BY HER SWEET VOICE, HER SENSUAL TOUCH, HER DELICATE SCENT...
IF YOU GAVE US JUST A PROPER CHANCE...
WE'D MAKE SUCH A DELICIOUS TEAM...

TRIBECA.
THE CLUB SCENE IS JUST HEATING UP FOR THE NIGHT.
CONSITY
WELL, WELL. MINORS OUT PAST MIDNIGHT. AND THE STENCH OF ALCOHOL CAN'T HIDE UNDER ALL THAT CHEAP PERFUME AND COLOGNE.
LOOKS TO ME LIKE YOU STILL KEEP HANGING WITH THE WRONG ELEMENT, SINCLAIR.
GOTTA GO
DON'T REMEMBER ASKIN' FOR YOUR APPROVAL, DAREDEVIL.
YOU'RE GOING TO DO SOME HACKING FOR ME. NOT EXACTLY LEGAL.
IS THAT SO? WELL--
IT IS SO.
I OWN YOU. WITHOUT ME, YOU GET A ONE WAY TICKET TO RYKER'S OR WORSE.
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE.
SO YOU SAID. YOU GOT A COMPUTER TERMINAL FOR ME OR WHAT?
YEAH. AND DON'T THINK THIS IS A FREE PASS TO DO YOUR OWN THING, EITHER.

PARK AVENUE
WHERE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUSINESS DEALS GO DOWN EVERY FEW SECONDS.
MetLife
YOU COME HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. CLEAN, EFFICIENT.
IT'S A SHAME I NEED YOU. I THOUGHT I DID SUCH A FOOLPROOF JOB FRAMING THOSE HOMELESS IDIOTS FOR THOSE BOMBINGS.
GUESS THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR THINKING I COULD MASTERMIND THE ASSASSINATIONS MYSELF.
ALWAYS HIRE THE PROS. HAVE TO FILE THAT AWAY FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.
PROBLEM I HAVE IS THIS DAREDEVIL PERSON'S BEEN BANGING DOWN DOORS ALL OVER TOWN STIRRING UP SUSPICIONS.
I KNOW YOU HAVE HISTORY WITH THE ORIGINAL DAREDEVIL. THIS ONE'S DIFFERENT. HE'S TOUGHER I HEAR.
IT DOESN'T MATTER. I DON'T DO THIS FOR PERSONAL REASONS.
YOU GOT THE FEE, I GOT THE BULLETS TO TAKE CARE OF THE SINNER.
NOT THAT HE'LL FIND ANYTHING.
BUT I DON'T TAKE CHANCES, BUSHWACKER.


HE IS NOT USED TO DEAD ENDS.
HE IS NOT USED TO HIS NEW NETWORK OF FRIENDS.
AND HE'S NOT ENTIRELY CERTAIN THAT HE'S COMFORTABLE WITH THEM.
THEY ALL RESIDE ON THE RAZOR'S EDGE OF RIGHT AND WRONG.
BUT WHO IS HE TO JUDGE, PARADING THE STREETS IN A COSTUME, DEALING HIS OWN BRAND OF UNAUTHORIZED JUSTICE?
CRASH
SINCLAIR SPECTRUM HACKED INTO POLICE COMPUTERS TRYING TO FIND CONNECTIONS IN THE STRING OF BOMBINGS.
WHERE SHE COULD MAKE NO CONNECTIONS --HE DOES

EACH BOMBING CLAIMED VICTIMS WITH UNDERWORLD OR POLITICAL CONNECTIONS.
NOT THAT THERE WAS REALLY MUCH DIFFERENCE.
NO ANSWERS ON WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE.
RANDI JILLETTE FARED ONLY SLIGHTLY BETTER, CONNECTING THE BOMBINGS TO A COUPLE OF RIVAL CRACK RINGS.
SOMEBODY'S GOING TO TALK TO HIM.
SPOCK SPOCK SPOCK
SOMEBODY KNOWS SOMETHING MORE THAN THE AUTHORITIES
BRAKK
CLICK CLICK
NO! WHY DON'T YOU FALL?
WHY DON'T YOU GET HIT?
I CAN HEAR THE BULLETS.

YOU LOST A COUPLE OF YOUR BOYS IN A BOMBING LAST WEEK.
I WANT A LIST OF YOUR ENEMIES.
KISS MY-- WHURGGH!
THWAK
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS. I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOU.
YOU GIVE ME SOMETHING I CAN USE OR YOU'RE TAKING A TRIP TO THE PAVEMENT.
THE WORDS SOUND ALMOST COMICAL AS THEY SPIT FROM BETWEEN HIS TEETH.
HE PRAYS THE WORDS ALONE WILL SUFFICE.
BRAK
I DUNNO... ONLY JOSHUA KNOWS--
RAAGH!
NO!
HE WAS TOO ABSORBED WITH FINDING ANSWERS TO DETECT THE SNIPER.
NOW THE ANSWERS MAY BE LOST FOREVER...
YOU GOT MORE'N YOUR SHARE OF ANSWERS, SINNER.

SPOCK
SPOCK
SPOCK
CLOSER. I WANNA WATCH YOU DIE UP CLOSE.
THE DEVIL WHO MESSED UP MY FACE WAS A REAL CHALLENGE.
NEVER TOOK A BULLET.
BUT HE'S GONE. AND YOU TOOK HIS NAME.
IT'S A SIN TO COVET... TO STEAL.
GOD NEVER TAKES THE SIDE OF SINNERS.
TO BE CONTINUED...

REDLINES

Greetings! Long time no letters page, but now we're back! As you can see, we've got a brand, spanking new letters page for you to peruse and enjoy. Fun, colorful and acceptable, or dumb, retro and annoying? You decide! Last issue, we brought you the first of our "Elektra Reports," designed to keep you informed, updated, and excited about our upcoming "Elektra" limited series by Chichester, McDaniel, and Collazo (a.k.a. "The Boys"), coming in January 1995. This month, we're presenting an ELEKTRA teaser (as you'll see when you flip the page). But that's not all. Next issue, we'll be diving into production of this new series, as we visit with Dan and Scott as they bring the story to life.

In the meantime, keep sending your letters to the address at the bottom of the page, and if you're interested in corresponding to this mag, via computer, address your e-mail letters to:

dgchi@aol.com

This is good on any service (Compuserve, GEnie, AOL, and Internet). And remember, keep those letters coming, because ultimately, you decide what goes into this book.

Dear Redlines,

I have been collecting DAREDEVIL since issue #286. Matt Murdock has gone through a lot of changes since then, from losing and regaining his memory, his "apparent death" and his new life as Jack Batlin. I like the way the creative team handles the character. Scott McDaniel's artwork is out of this world. Daredevil looks very cool under his pencils. D.G. Chichester's writing is reminiscent of Frank Miller's. He gives the book a dark atmosphere which is suitable for Daredevil's character.

Before the "Fall from Grace" epic, I considered Daredevil a second-rate comic book and considered dropping it from my collection. But after the "Fall from Grace" and the current "Tree of Knowledge" storyline, Daredevil is now my favorite comic book along with the X-MEN. I will continue collecting Daredevil as long as the creative team of Chichester and McDaniel continue to generate more excitement in this book.

Malcolm Mesina
Molave Residence Hall
University of the Philippines
Diliman, Quezon City
Philippines

Always good to hear from another hooked DD fan, Malcolm. Dan, Scott and Hector are continuing to blaze a trail through untried valleys, both on ELEKTRA and the upcoming "Mark of Cain" storyline (following the conclusion of the current "Humanity's Fathom" story arc). To quote somebody, "you ain't seen nothing, yet!"

Dear Editor,

I don't know what I like about the recent issues of DAREDEVIL, but I must like something. I've bought the last eight issues (since "Fall from Grace" began), and I haven't always been able to tell what's going on, but I must be enjoying them because I have no intention of stopping, not as of #327 anyway.

Beautiful cover. I also like the first few pages, those wonderful depictions of Namor and Galactus, the ferry disaster, the Avengers. Pretty neat.

Now, as to the rest of it, I'm not sure what's going on, as in "Fall from Grace", but I get a kick out of trying to figure it out. It's a new kind of comic, and, really, that's the point.

I'm a DAREDEVIL fan from way back. One of the very first comic books I ever picked up was DD #126 in the summer of 1975. (I was 10 or 11.) I was hooked. I eventually had every issue (that was quite a feat) but around the time of #240 came out, I lost interest. I'd look at it every once in a while, but it wasn't until "Fall from Grace" appeared that I got interested again.

It was just for fun, at first. I didn't really think I was going to continue reading DD after "Fall from Grace" ended, but I saw the first part of "Tree of Knowledge" at the newsstand and I mechanically added it to the small stack of independent comics I now collect.

I guess I'm hooked on Daredevil. Again.

At this point, I don't really want to comment on whether it's better or worse than it was in the old days.

It's different.

And that counts for a lot.

Tony Seybert
5987 Franklin Ave. Apt. 203
Los Angeles, CA 90028

We're not sure if it's the wholly unique art of Scott and Hector, or the unpredictable stories of Dan that's luring you in, Tony. Most likely, it's both. As the last two story arcs have shown, these guys have a synergy unique to comics. You may have trouble understanding it all at first, but once you get over the differences in this unique format of comic storytelling, you'll find you don't want to go back!

Dear Ralph

"Tree of Knowledge" has succeeded where most other post-"big issue" storylines fail: the team has remained intact, and an exciting new story has been launched without losing any momentum from the previous issue. I especially liked how issue #32 picked right up from where "Fall from Grace" left off.

I have but one question: what ever happened to the "Fall from Grace" trade paperback that was supposed to come out this year? Has it been delayed or canceled?

Todd Jacobs
27 Smarmy Road
Chicago, IL 60614

Rest easy, Todd. The "Fall from Grace" trade paperback was merely delayed. It's due out on September 9th or so. Not only does it collect the entire seven part storyline (a mammoth 180 pages), but it also includes many recolored pages (to correct certain effects that didn't come out right the first time), a heretofore previously unseen piece of McDaniel/Collazo artwork that was not used at the conclusion of issue #325, and best of all, there're sixteen new pages of story by Dan, Scott and Hector, to supplement and enhance the story still further.

RALPH MACCHIO: WASTE — MATT IDELSON: ASSISTANT WASTE
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an ~ELEKTRA~ teaser

QUIET TIME

by
D.G. CHICHESTER
SCOTT McDANIEL
HECTOR COLLAZO
with
LETTERER
JEFF POWELL
COLORIST
LINDA GILMORE
EDITOR
RALPH MACCHIO
CHIEF
TOM DeFALCO

KITTY GOT A PROMOTION THIS MORNING TO OFFICE MANAGER.
AT LUNCH, SHE FOUND TEN DOLLARS ON THE SUBWAY.
ON THE WAY HOME, SHE MADE WEEKEND PLANS WITH HER BOYFRIEND OF TEN MONTHS.
SHE KNOWS--JUST KNOWS--HE'S GOING TO POP THE QUESTION.
KITTY'S ATTACKER DOESN'T CARE.
HE JUST KNOWS SHE'S SOFT AND WARM AND THE WIND IS SO COLD TONIGHT.
PLEASE...
SO VERY COLD.
THE SAI CATCHES THE WRIST LIKE IT'S NOT MOVING.
...SOMEBODY...
AND BREAKS IT IN SIX PLACES.
GYAARKK
GET AWAY FROM ME! GET AWAY!
ELEKTRA COULD DO MORE.
A NINJA COULD ALWAYS DO WORSE.
MOTHERLESS PIECE OF--

BUT NOT WITHOUT REASON, SHE TELLS HERSELF.
MAKE IT COUNT.
NO MATTER HOW DARK THE METHOD.
QUIET.
NO MATTER HOW TERRIBLE.
GIVE IT MEANING.
LISTEN...
IN THE SUDDEN STILL, THE SOUND IS A CACOPHONY.
THE POP OF SKIN BREAKING OPEN.
A SLIDING WETNESS OF STEEL AND MEAT.
BONE SNAPPING, HIGH PITCHED AND HOLLOW.

IT SLICES THROUGH.
AND CUTS DEEP.
AND THEY WILL HEAR ITS ECHOES LONG AFTER TONIGHT.

RUN AWAY NOW, KITTY... DON'T LOOK BACK.
THE REST OF YOU... LET ANOTHER CALL FOR HELP GO BY... THEN LISTEN FOR THAT SOUND AGAIN.

VERY CLOSE ... AND VERY PERSONAL...
ELEKTRA COMES YOUR WAY FULL FORCE THIS JANUARY IN "ELEKTRA: ROOT OF EVIL"!
BE HERE NEXT ISSUE FOR EXCLUSIVE BEHIND-THE-SCENES DETAILS!